

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 18434 111417Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 STR-04 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 USIE-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 TAR-01 TRSE-00

PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 /096 W

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O P 111405Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4292

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

USDEL MTN GENEVA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, MTN, EEC

SUBJECT: MTN AGRICULTURAL IMPASSE

REF: EC BRUSSELS 10056

1. FRG ECONOMICS MINISTRY TRADE POLICY OFFICIAL
(KUEHN) INFORMED EMBOFF NOVEMBER 11 THAT AT LAST L13
DEPUTIES MEETING FRENCH FINALLY EXPLAINED THEIR
POSITION CONCERNING NEW US/EC COMPROMISE PROPOSAL.
REFERRING TO REFERENCE IN MAY AGREEMENT TO MATTERS OF
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PAGE 02 BONN 18434 111417Z

GLOBAL NATURE, FRENCH SAID THEY INTERPRETED THIS

COMMITMENT AS PERTAINING ONLY TO SUCH TECHNICAL QUESTIONS AS COLLECTION OF DATA. THEY DID NOT INTERPRET THIS AS INCLUDING QRS OR OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES. THE FRENCH NOTED THAT THE NEW COMPROMISE REFERS TO THE MAY AGREEMENT BUT THEN GOES ON TO COVER NEW AREAS OF A SUBSTANTIVE NATURE. THE FRENCH SAID THAT THERE IS THEREFORE A CONTRADICTION BETWEEN THE NEW PROPOSED COMPROMISE AND THE MAY AGREEMENT PARTICULARLY WITH REFERENCE TO COVERAGE OF ISSUES. THIS CONTRADICTION INCREASES THE AMBIGUITY ALREADY PRESENT IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS. THE FRENCH BELIEVE THAT IF THE EC ACCEPTS SUCH AMBIGUOUS AND CONTRADICTORY COMPROMISE IT WILL ONLY ENTER INTO NEW DISPUTES FURTHER DOWN THE ROAD WITH THE US.

2. KUEHN NOTED THAT THE IRISH AND BELGIANS ALSO TOOK A RESERVED STANCE AT 113 COMMITTEE MEETING. HE THINKS HOWEVER THAT THEY WOULD COME AROUND AND SUPPORT ANY COMPROMISE TO WHICH THE FRENCH AGREED. THE OTHER EC COUNTRIES HAVE CONTINUED TO GIVE THE EC COMMISSION THEIR STRONG SUPPORT. IN AN ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN FRENCH AGREEMENT, GERMANY AND THE OTHERS OFFERED TO ACCEPT THE NARROW INTERPRETATION PLACED BY THE FRENCH ON THE TEXT OF MAY COMPROMISE. THE FRENCH REJECTED THIS OFFER, CLAIMING THAT IT WOULD BE DISHONEST STANCE TO TAKE IN DEALING WITH US ON AGRICULTURE.

3. KUEHN INFORMED US THAT GATT DIRECTOR GENERAL LONG WILL VISIT BONN NOVEMBER 12 FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH STATE SECRETARY HERMES, STEEG AND OTHER ECONOMIC POLICY OFFICIALS. GERMANS WILL TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS AGRICULTURAL IMPASSE WITH LONG. KUEHN ALSO BELIEVES AGRICULTURAL IMPASSE ISSUE WILL COME UP AT ECONOMIC SUMMIT.

4. STRESSING THAT THIS WAS AN INFORMAL AND PERSONAL SUGGESTION, KUEHN WONDERED WHETHER A NEW TRY MIGHT BE MADE AT DRAFTING A MUCH SHORTER COMPROMISE TEXT, PARTICULARLY SINCE WE HAVE REACHED SUCH A STALEMATE OVER THE TEXT NOW BEFORE US. IN SUCH AN EFFORT, HE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 BONN 18434 111417Z

THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE HELPFUL TO HAVE THE 113 COMMITTEE DEPUTIES IN THE NEXT ROOM, SO THAT THE EC COMMISSION NEGOTIATORS WOULD BE ABLE TO CONSULT DURING THE ACTUAL DRAFTING.
HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGRICULTURE, POLICIES, TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BONN18434
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750391-1138
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751156/aaaabxqj.tel
Line Count: 112
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 EC BRUSSELS 10056
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <15 OCT 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MTN AGRICULTURAL IMPASSE
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, EEC, MTN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006